

**A PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF POMONA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF APRIL 2017 AS “SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH” AND DECLARING WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 2017 AS “DENIM DAY” IN THE CITY OF POMONA**

**WHEREAS**, the United States Government has declared April as “Sexual Assault Awareness Month” and Project Sister Family Services has declared April 27, 2016 as “Denim Day” in Los Angeles County; and

**WHEREAS**, both events are intended to draw attention to the fact that rape and sexual assault remain serious issues in our society; and

**WHEREAS**, harmful attitudes about rape and sexual assault allow these crimes to persist and allow victims/survivors to be re-victimized; and

**WHEREAS**, “Sexual Assault Awareness Month” and “Denim Day” were instituted to call attention to misconceptions and misinformation about rape and sexual assault, and the problem that many in society remain disturbingly uninformed with respect to issues of consent, coercion, and forcible rape; and

**WHEREAS**, every two minutes, someone in America is sexually assaulted, approximately one in six women are raped during their lifetimes, and youth under 18 account for about 44 percent of all reported rapes; and

**WHEREAS**, with proper education on the matter there is compelling evidence that we can be successful in reducing incidents of this alarming and psychologically damaging crime; and

**WHEREAS**, the Pomona City Council strongly supports the efforts of Project Sister Family Services to educate persons in our community about the true impact of rape and sexual assault in Southern California.

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF POMONA** hereby proclaims the month of April 2017 as:

**“Sexual Assault Awareness Month”**

and Wednesday, April 26, 2017 as:

**“Denim Day”**

in the City of Pomona, and urges everyone to wear denim jeans on April 26, 2017 to help stand in solidarity with survivors and communicate the message that there is never an excuse or an invitation to rape.